

~324th~
~ANNUAL REORGANIZATION MEETING~
~BOARD OF CHOSEN FREEHOLDERS~
~OF THE COUNTY OF GLOUCESTER~
~SATURDAY, JANUARY 2, 2010~
~5:00 p.m.~

The 324th annual reorganization meeting of the Board of Chosen Freeholders of the County of Gloucester was called to order at 5:00 p.m. The resolution setting the date, time and place for Annual Reorganization meeting was read in its entirety.

Presentation of the Colors was offered by the Semper Fidelis Detachment of the Marine Corps League, after which the Pledge of Allegiance was led for the assemblage, with Miss Chelsea Musick singing the National Anthem.

The Reverend David A. Grover, St. Michael's Roman Catholic Church, Gibbstown gave the invocation.

A letter certifying the election of Giuseppe Chila and Robert M. Damminger to the Board of Chosen Freeholders of the County of Gloucester was read in its entirety.

Newly re-elected Freeholder Giuseppe Chila, escorted by his wife, Peg, and their sons Domenic and Michael, was introduced. The Honorable Celeste M. Riley, New Jersey State Assemblywoman, was introduced for the swearing-in ceremony of Freeholder-elect Chila. Freeholder-elect Chila received his oath of office and took his seat.

Newly re-elected Freeholder Robert M. Damminger, escorted by his wife, Debbie, and their daughter, Kimberly, was introduced and entered the room. The Honorable Stephen M. Sweeney, New Jersey State Senator, and Gloucester County Freeholder, administered the oath of office for Freeholder-elect Damminger, after which the freeholder took his seat.

Newly re-elected Sheriff Carmel Morina, escorted by Gina Morina, Nicole Brennan, Melissa Morina, CJ Morina, Natale Morina, Maria Elena Morina, Gia Morina and Santino Morina, was introduced and came into the courtroom. The Honorable Stephen M. Sweeney, New Jersey State Senator, and Gloucester County Freeholder, was again called upon for the swearing-in ceremony of Sheriff Morina.

At this time, the first official Roll Call of the 2010 Board of Chosen Freeholders was taken with the following Board members being present: Freeholder Joseph A. Brigandi, Jr.; Freeholder Giuseppe "Joe" Chila, Freeholder Robert M. Damminger, Freeholder Frank J. DiMarco, Freeholder Jean DuBois, Freeholder Stephen M. Sweeney and Freeholder Warren S. Wallace.

The Clerk then called for nominations for Director of the Board of Chosen Freeholders for the year 2010. Freeholder Brigandi placed the name of Freeholder Sweeney into nomination, which was seconded by Freeholder Wallace. There being no other nominations, Freeholder Sweeney was elected Director with a roll call vote, with himself abstaining from the vote and the other six freeholders voting in the affirmative. The Honorable Robert M. Damminger administered the oath of office for Director Sweeney, after which the Director took his place at the dais.

Director Sweeney then called for nominations for Deputy Director of the Board of Chosen Freeholders for the year 2010. Freeholder Brigandi placed the name of Freeholder Damminger into nomination, which was seconded by Freeholder Wallace. Hearing no other names, the Director called for a vote on the nomination, which was approved with a roll call vote, Freeholder Damminger abstaining and the other six freeholders voting in the affirmative. New Jersey State Senator and Gloucester County Freeholder Director Stephen M. Sweeney administered the oath of office to Deputy Director Damminger, after which both Freeholders returned to their seats.

Director Sweeney then gave his annual address, as Director of the Board of Freeholders:

Ladies and Gentlemen, honored guests, friends: Welcome to Gloucester County and thank you for being a part of the 324th reorganization of our county. When I first became Director of this Board I have always given this address to outline what the county's goals would be for the coming year. I believe that we should communicate to our residents the financial state of their government, new programs and initiatives we have planned and the challenges that face our county. Over the last 12 years we have announced and completed many ambitious projects and programs to meet the demands of our citizens. We challenged ourselves to be a proactive government that looks beyond a calendar year, with a vision that strives to make a difference in the quality of life for our residents and for future generations. For the better part of the last decade this Freeholder Board has been fortunate to govern during times of tremendous economic success in our region. We preserved over 15000 acres of our farms and open spaces. We invested in our children with new facilities that accommodate an influx of new students with a variety of different needs. We made sure that our Veterans had access to quality healthcare and services. And, we initiated a regionalized EMS program that guaranteed when a person in need dialed 911 their call was answered in a matter of minutes. But over the past 18 months, we have all witnessed our national economy fall into a deep recession. The downturn of the national economy has personally affected all of us. We all know people who have lost their jobs, or are on the brink of losing their homes. The news is difficult on all fronts. At the state level the outlook is not much better. New Jersey has dire budget issues that impact every level of government which will result in tough decisions that will have to be made. Our taxpayers are strapped. Homeowners

are facing unprecedented challenges, several large area employers have faced major reductions in their workforce, and although our nation is beginning to see glimpses of an upturn in our economy, we are a long way from a full recovery. In a tight economy, families are forced to make difficult decisions and Gloucester County will also be making tough decisions by finding ways to continue to do more with much less. For nine years in a row this Board of Freeholders has held the line on the county tax rate. We have done this for two reasons: First our commitment to stable taxes has been our number one priority. People work hard to put a roof over their families' head and food on the table. As a government we have a responsibility and a moral obligation to spend the public's money efficiently, prudently and in a way that improves their lives. Second, we have been adamant about holding the tax rate steady because it is one of the main indicators that the private sector and industry look to when locating a business. Gloucester County has an ultimate goal – to attract high paying jobs to our region and to keep tech savvy college graduates here. By implementing stability we will be in the best position to recover from the national economic crisis. Holding the line on the tax rate in 2010 is going to take a lot of hard work, but it is a pledge that I make tonight on behalf of this Freeholder Board. We have directed our Department Heads to cut spending and look at all possible cost-savings measures. Just like every other employer we are facing an increase in healthcare costs, insurance costs and other fixed costs. There are no easy solutions or quick fixes to holding the tax rate at the same level it was in the year 2000. It can only be accomplished by making our government smaller. Since we began to shrink the size of government we have eliminated over 100 positions, saving \$5.9 million in salaries and benefits. In 2010 we will look to attrition at least another 20 positions saving another \$1 million in salaries and benefits. The county doesn't plan on balancing the budget solely on the backs of its employees; there are many men and women who do important work for our residents and we appreciate that. We have already had discussions with the union leadership and hope to work with our employees to find manageable ways to reign in costs. One way we will seek to cut costs is shared services. We have seen proof time and time again that shared services do not diminish the quality of a program that residents receive, but saves our taxpayers a great deal of money in administrative costs. Gloucester County has shared service agreements in place with all of our agencies and Gloucester County College, Gloucester County Institute of Technology, the County Library. Since we began to share services with these agencies a year ago, we have been able to achieve \$1 million in savings. By moving forward with additional shared services in the areas of purchasing, legal services, joint insurance, human resources, security and other administrative functions, we can identify another \$1 million annually in savings. Holding the line on the county's tax rate for the tenth consecutive year will be difficult, but it is something we have to do. There will be hard choices to face, however we are committed to our taxpayers and do what is necessary to meet the challenges that lie ahead. Unlike previous years, in this economic climate there are not a lot of announcements we will be making about new programs or projects. We will continue our

commitment to various improvements that we already have in motion, and continue to look within and work with local governments to cut costs. I realize that much of what I just spoke of seemed grim, but the year ahead does have some very bright notes. This Freeholder Board cares about people. Every single one of us is here to leave Gloucester County a better place for our children and our children's children. These areas include: *Port of Paulsboro*

This past September the county broke ground on the new Port of Paulsboro. This \$250 million Marine terminal being constructed along the Delaware River will help to revitalize our region and to provide new economic opportunities for hundreds of our working men and women.

Dirt is now rolling on to the site of the Port of Paulsboro and, as permitting moves ahead, contractors for construction of the port facilities and the access road to the port should be in place by the end of the summer. *Education*

This coming September we will open a new expansion to the Gloucester County Institute of Technology. This expansion will add 125 seats for career-technical students over the next 4 years. And the Academy High School at GCIT will provide a minimum 30 college credits from GCC upon graduation at no cost to our families. In Gloucester County we are light years ahead of what is happening not only in New Jersey with regard to Education, but what is happening in the nation. We have a state-of-the-art school for our children with Autism, our Bankbridge Schools, additional seats for our technical students and the ability to give our brightest students the equivalent of two years of college without the cost of two years of college. We will continue our commitment to education and to the children and families of our county because education is the path to success. *Route 322 & Bridges*

When we talk about improving the quality of life for our residents, it means addressing issues that may be new, or issues that have existed for years. This coming spring, the Freeholders will break ground on the third phase of the Route 322 Mullica Hill Bypass project. This phase of the bypass includes realigning Walters Road and Clems Run Road. The progress the county has made on the Route 322 improvements have made a tremendous positive impact on both the community of Mullica Hill and the 27,000 motorists who drive on Route 322 daily. When the final phase of the Route 322 bypass is completed in 2011 it will reduce the amount of traffic of Main St. in Mullica Hill by 40 to 50 percent. This readjustment of traffic will not only increase the safety of the area, but it will help revitalize the shopping and downtown district of Mullica Hill. The improvements we make to Gloucester County's roads are more than just fixing the traffic issues of Route 322. Gloucester County has implemented an aggressive bridge safety program. There are 90 bridges in Gloucester County and each bridge is inspected every two years. Since 2006 eight of the county's bridges have been completely replaced and two have been renovated. Gloucester County has four additional bridges ready to be replaced in 2010 and is working on the design for repair or replacement of two more. We anticipate that after these bridges are completed, Gloucester County will be the only county in New Jersey to have a complete inventory of structurally sound bridges. *Health & Seniors* It's important for our roads to be safe and our bridges to be

structurally sound, but it is also important that the health of our children, working families and seniors is structurally sound. This Board of Freeholders understands your health is not a luxury. That is why we are dedicated to providing free health screenings throughout the county, making sure our seniors and shut-ins get a hot, nutritious meal, and that the immunizations our children need to keep them healthy are available to them, even if their parents don't have insurance. In this economy, many of our residents are without health insurance and that means many families are not getting the health services they need. Gloucester County offers a free program to every resident that provides a discount on prescription drug costs, vision for eye exams, and discounts on hearing and diabetic savings programs. *Regionalization*

Protecting the health and welfare and public safety of our citizens is our mandate as county leaders. We have implemented many positive programs that help make life better for our residents. For example, when the county began its regionalized EMS program in 2007, we did so to improve public safety. Today, the Gloucester County EMS system is one of the leading examples in New Jersey of the success of a regionalized service. We have elevated the level of care and service that the 14 participating towns receive and the average response times is still 3 minutes less than the national standards. We are hopeful that more towns will come into our Regionalized EMS system in 2010. We have learned that regionalization can work in other areas beyond EMS. In 2010 the County will undertake another facet of cost-savings with our towns, this time in the area of regionalized tax assessing. The technology and tools that are available today no longer justify each town to perform tax assessing in the same fashion that they did in 1959. Tonight we appoint a Countywide Assessor as the next step in a Regionalized Assessors Office. We anticipate that this service will save taxpayers an estimated \$1.5 million each year while maintaining assessments at fair market value. Our goal is to work with the 24 towns of our county on these projects and many more as we move ahead this year. When we work together we make real progress. Let me give you another example. One of the largest costs a municipality faces is for the disposal of its trash. Because collective reprocurement is the best way to achieve savings, the county contacted all the mayors and obtained their consent to negotiate another long-term solid waste disposal contract. Under the new agreement we were able to negotiate a 10 year solid waste contract that will collectively save municipalities over \$1 million a year. The towns will be paying 13 percent less per ton of trash than they were paying under the previous contract. A town the size of Franklin will save \$77,000 a year and Washington Township will save over \$223,000 a year. By negotiating a contract that reduces the tonnage cost for every municipality we are helping reduce the cost of government. When we combine our forces on matters that directly impact our taxpayers we can achieve a lot. In 2010 each of the county's 24 towns will be assigned a County Department Head or other county representative that will attend local monthly meetings. The idea behind this designated liaison is to establish an open line of communication and find more opportunities for shared services and regionalization. The municipal liaison will help our towns have a direct line of contact with

the county on a more regular basis. Our mayors and council people will have their 'go to' person for answers and, it is my hope, for collaboration on ways to save our taxpayers money. *Wall of Heroes/Justice Complex*

One other project I want to touch on tonight for 2010 that is dear to my heart is the Wall of Heroes. When the expansion of the Gloucester County Justice Complex is completed in the fall it will feature a Wall of Heroes to honor the men and women who were killed in action while serving in the military protecting our freedoms and rights since the creation of our country. The Wall of Heroes will be a beautiful and fitting tribute to those who gave the ultimate sacrifice. There is a committee in place that is working on gathering photographs and information on our heroes, and anyone with any information about family members or members of the community who may belong on the Wall of Heroes should contact the Gloucester County Office of Veterans Affairs. Over 7,000 people a day will walk through the halls of the Justice Complex once it is completed later this year. This Freeholder Board does everything with an eye on the future. Just two years ago we were debating moving the courts out of Woodbury, but we believed it was in the best interest of both the County and the City of Woodbury to keep the county seat in tact. Just two months ago we completed the new Parking Garage on Hunter Street and it has already made a big impact on downtown Woodbury. Making positive impacts for our taxpayers, our local economy, on education, our children, our environment and for generations to come is the duty of all seven of us sitting up here. We have never backed away from a challenge big or small and we never will. 2010 will present its fair share of challenges, but we are focused. No man or woman does this work without the loyalty and support of their family and friends. I could not do what I do without the vision and support of my colleagues on this Board. They are the unsung heroes of Gloucester County and I thank each and every one of them. Without them, none of what I spoke of for our future and none of what has been accomplished in the past decade would have been possible. I want to thank you all for your support and for allowing me to serve as your Freeholder Director. I want to thank our county administrator, my staff, and all of the workers of Gloucester County. I wish you all a healthy and prosperous new year. Thank you and God Bless.

Director Sweeney accorded the privilege of the floor to our Congressional Representative, Rob Andrews. Congressman Andrews wished everyone a happy New Year, expressed his delight at being at this reorganization meeting and praised the Board of Freeholders and its Director.

At this time, various honored guests, elected officials both past and present from local government, county government and state and federal government were introduced and thanked for their attendance.

Each Freeholder, as well as the Sheriff, was given the opportunity to make brief remarks, which they each did, thanking their families and friends, as well as the voters of Gloucester County, and each wished everyone a happy, healthy New Year.

The following fifty-seven (57) resolutions were moved by Freeholder Damming, seconded by Freeholder Brigandi and unanimously adopted, with one consensus, roll call vote:

RESOLUTION 44119

A RESOLUTION adopting the Rules of the Board of Chosen Freeholders of the County of Gloucester for the year 2010.

RESOLUTION 44120

A RESOLUTION adopting Freeholder assignments for the Board of Chosen Freeholders of the County of Gloucester for the year 2010.

RESOLUTION 44121

A RESOLUTION adopting a temporary budget for the year 2010.

RESOLUTION 44122

A RESOLUTION approving emergency temporary appropriations.

RESOLUTION 44123

A RESOLUTION adopting a schedule of regular meetings of the Board of Chosen Freeholders for the year 2010.

RESOLUTION 44124

A RESOLUTION fixing a fee to be paid by members of the public for receiving personal notice of meetings pursuant to the Open Public Meetings Act.

RESOLUTION 44125

A RESOLUTION authorizing Cash Management Plan for the County of Gloucester pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:5-14, et seq.

RESOLUTION 44126

A RESOLUTION establishing the official newspapers for the County of Gloucester for the year 2010.

RESOLUTION 44127

A RESOLUTION ratifying prior acts of the Gloucester County Board of Chosen Freeholders.

RESOLUTION 44128

A RESOLUTION re-appointing Chad M. Bruner to the position of County Administrator.

RESOLUTION 44129

A RESOLUTION appointing a County Assessor for the County of Gloucester.

RESOLUTION 44130

A RESOLUTION appointing a County Fire Coordinator and five deputy coordinators.

RESOLUTION 44131

A RESOLUTION authorizing the execution of a professional services contract to Hardenbergh Insurance Group for the provision of professional insurance consultant/broker services for the County of Gloucester for the total amount of \$135,000.00 for the period beginning January 1, 2010 and terminating December 31, 2010.

RESOLUTION 44132

A RESOLUTION authorizing the execution of a professional services contract with Nick L. Petroni, CPA, RMA, T/A Petroni & Associates, for the provision of professional accounting services for the period beginning July 1, 2010 and concluding June 30, 2011, which contract shall be open ended and shall have a minimum contract amount of zero and a maximum contract amount of \$100,000.00.

RESOLUTION 44133

A RESOLUTION authorizing the execution of a professional services contract with Parker McCay, P.A., for the provision of professional bond counsel legal services and other legal services of a specialized nature for the period beginning January 1, 2010 and concluding December 31, 2010, which contract shall be open ended and shall have a minimum contract amount of zero and a maximum contract amount of \$240,000.00.

RESOLUTION 44134

A RESOLUTION authorizing the execution of a professional services contract with Brown & Connery, LLP, for the provision of professional labor attorney legal services and other legal services of a specialized nature for the period beginning January 1, 2010 and concluding December 31, 2010, which contract shall be open ended and shall have a minimum contract amount of zero and a maximum contract amount of \$400,000.00.

RESOLUTION 44135

A RESOLUTION authorizing the award of a professional services contract to Conner Strong Companies, Inc., for professional benefits administrator and broker of record for health and employee benefits insurances for the County of Gloucester for the period beginning January 1, 2010 and terminating December 31, 2010 for a minimum contract amount of zero and a maximum contract amount of zero.

RESOLUTION 44136

A RESOLUTION authorizing the execution of a professional services contract with Phoenix Advisors, LLC, for the provision of professional financial advisor services for the period beginning January 1, 2010 and concluding December 31, 2010, which contract shall be open ended and shall have a minimum contract amount of zero and a maximum contract amount of \$50,000.00.

RESOLUTION 44137

A RESOLUTION authorizing the execution of a contract with John Eastlack, Esquire for the provision of a County Hearing Officer and other legal services of a specialized nature for the period beginning January 1, 2010 and terminating December 31, 2010 for a minimum contract amount of zero and a maximum contract amount of \$15,000.00.

RESOLUTION 44138

A RESOLUTION authorizing the award of a split RFP for a period of one year from the date of the award for a minimum contract amount of zero and a maximum contract amount of \$100,000.00 for each contract as per RFP 10-014 to Bach Associates, PC; Joseph F. McKernan, Jr., Architects and Associates; and Garrison Architects for the provision of supplying services for architectural management and design for renovations to all county facilities located in Gloucester County.

RESOLUTION 44139

A RESOLUTION appointing members, a Chairman and a Secretary for the Gloucester County Construction Board of Appeals.

RESOLUTION 44140

A RESOLUTION appointing a member to the Gloucester County Industrial Pollution Control Finance Authority.

RESOLUTION 44141

A RESOLUTION appointing individuals to the Gloucester County Commission on Women.

RESOLUTION 44142

A RESOLUTION appointing members to the Local Advisory Committee on Alcohol and Drug Abuse.

RESOLUTION 44143

A RESOLUTION appointing members to the Parks and Recreation Advisory Council.

RESOLUTION 44144

A RESOLUTION appointing members to the Gloucester County Police Academy Advisory Board.

RESOLUTION 44145

A RESOLUTION appointing members to the Gloucester County Youth Services Commission/Juvenile Crime Enforcement Coalition.

RESOLUTION 44146

A RESOLUTION appointing members to the Local Citizens Advisory Board of Transportation.

RESOLUTION 44147

A RESOLUTION appointing members to the Gloucester County Library Commission.

RESOLUTION 44148

A RESOLUTION appointing members to the Senior Services Advisory Board.

RESOLUTION 44149

A RESOLUTION appointing a member to the Gloucester County Utilities Authority.

RESOLUTION 44150

A RESOLUTION appointing members to the Human Relations Commission for Gloucester County.

RESOLUTION 44151

A RESOLUTION appointing members to the Solid Waste Advisory Council.

RESOLUTION 44152

A RESOLUTION appointing members to the Tri-County Water Quality Control Board.

RESOLUTION 44153

A RESOLUTION appointing members to the College Board of Trustees Search Committee.

RESOLUTION 44154

A RESOLUTION appointing members to the Pitman Golf Course Advisory Committee.

RESOLUTION 44155

A RESOLUTION appointing members to the School Safety & Youth Violence Committee.

RESOLUTION 44156

A RESOLUTION appointing members to the Workforce Investment Board.

RESOLUTION 44157

A RESOLUTION appointing Gloucester County members to the New Jersey Association of Counties.

RESOLUTION 44158

A RESOLUTION appointing a member to the Gloucester County Improvement Authority.

RESOLUTION 44159

A RESOLUTION appointing persons to the Animal Shelter Advisory Committee.

RESOLUTION 44160

A RESOLUTION appointing members to the Gloucester County Department of Correctional Services Advisory Council.

RESOLUTION 44161

A RESOLUTION appointing members to the Gloucester County Cultural & Heritage Commission.

RESOLUTION 44162

A RESOLUTION appointing members to the Advisory Board for the County Veteran's Cemetery.

RESOLUTION 44163

A RESOLUTION appointing members to the Gloucester County Planning Board.

RESOLUTION 44164

A RESOLUTION appointing members to the Domestic Violence Advisory Council.

RESOLUTION 44165

A RESOLUTION appointing members to the Tolerance Project.

RESOLUTION 44166

A RESOLUTION appointing members to the Voting Accessibility Advisory Committee.

RESOLUTION 44167

A RESOLUTION appointing members to the Gloucester County Mental Health Board.

RESOLUTION 44168

A RESOLUTION appointing members to the Tri-County Differential Response Oversight Committee.

RESOLUTION 44169

A RESOLUTION appointing members to the County Interagency Coordinating Council for Children.

RESOLUTION 44170

A RESOLUTION appointing members to the Gloucester County Tourism Action Committee.

RESOLUTION 44171

A RESOLUTION appointing representatives to the Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission.

RESOLUTION 44172

A RESOLUTION appointing members to the Tax Assessor Advisory Committee.

RESOLUTION 44173

A RESOLUTION appointing a member to the Pinelands Commission.

RESOLUTION 44174

A RESOLUTION appointing members to the Gloucester County Agriculture Development Board.

RESOLUTION 44175

A RESOLUTION appointing members to the Emergency Management Council.

Director Sweeney made the following Director's appointments for the year 2010:

Freeholder Brigandi as Freeholder member to the Mental Health Board.

Director Sweeney and Freeholders Damming and Brigandi as Freeholder members to the Board of School Estimates.

Freeholder Wallace as Freeholder liaison to the Local Citizens Advisory Board of Transportation.

Freeholder Brigandi as Freeholder Liaison to the Gloucester County Chamber of Commerce.

Richard Westergaard as Freeholder representative to the Southern New Jersey Resource Conservation & Development Council.

Freeholder Wallace as Freeholder member to the Youth Services Commission.

Freeholder Brigandi as Freeholder liaison to the Disabled Person Advisory Council.

Freeholder Damming as Freeholder liaison to the Agriculture Development Board.

Freeholder Wallace as Freeholder liaison to the Human Services Advisory Council.

Freeholder DiMarco as Freeholder liaison to the Cultural & Heritage Commission.

Freeholder DuBois as Freeholder liaison to the Commission on Women.

Freeholder Chila as Freeholder liaison to the Housing Authority.

Freeholder Damming as Freeholder liaison to the Utilities Authority.

Director Sweeney as Freeholder liaison to the Improvement Authority.

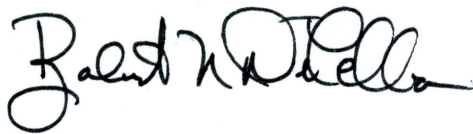
Freeholder Chila as Freeholder liaison to the Human Relations

Commission.

Lisa Morina as Freeholder representative to Main Street Woodbury.

The Reverend David A. Grover, St. Michael's Roman Catholic Church, Gibbstown was called upon to deliver the benediction.

Upon the motion of Freeholder Damminger and the second of Freeholder Brigandi, the meeting was unanimously adjourned, with a roll call vote, at 6:15 p.m.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David A. Grover". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

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